

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A *Eustoma* plant having reduced apical dominance.
- 5 2. The *Eustoma* plant of claim 1 which contains an allele for reduced apical dominance.
3. A *Eustoma* plant having reduced apical dominance, wherein the plant has a pedigree which includes the plant 752 or derivatives thereof.
- 10 4. Seed of the plant of claims 1, 2 or 3.
5. Pollen of the plant of claims 1, 2 or 3.
- 15 6. An ovule of the plant of claims 1, 2 or 3.
7. A tissue culture comprising regenerable cells of the plant of claims 1 or 3.
8. A cutting of the plant of claims 1, 2 or 3.
- 20 9. *Eustoma* seed containing an allele for reduced apical dominance.
10. *Eustoma* seed containing an allele for reduced apical dominance, wherein the seed has a pedigree which includes the plant 752 or derivatives thereof.
- 25 11. A *Eustoma* plant produced by growing the seed of claims 9 or 10.
12. A reduced apical dominance allele which when expressed in a *Eustoma* plant produces a reduced apical dominant phenotype in said plant.

13. A method for producing F₁ hybrid *Eustoma* seed, the method comprising the steps of crossing a first parent *Eustoma* plant with a second parent *Eustoma* plant and harvesting the resultant F₁ hybrid *Eustoma* seed, wherein the first and second parent *Eustoma* plant is the *Eustoma* plant of claims 1, 2 or 3.

14. A first generation (F₁) hybrid *Eustoma* plant produced by growing the hybrid *Eustoma* seed of claim 13.

15. A process for identifying a *Eustoma* plant, the genome of which contains an allele for reduced apical dominance, the process comprising the steps of:

crossing a *Eustoma* plant to be tested with a *Eustoma* plant the genome of which contains an allele for reduced apical dominance;

recovering the resulting F₁ hybrid *Eustoma* seed;

planting the F₁ hybrid *Eustoma* seed and regenerating into plants; and

selecting *Eustoma* plants the genome of which contains an allele for reduced apical dominance and which exhibit a reduced apical dominance phenotype.

16. A process of obtaining hybrid *Eustoma* seed, the genome of which contains an allele for reduced apical dominance, the process comprising the steps of:

crossing a *Eustoma* plant obtained by the process of claim 15 with a *Eustoma* plant the genome of which contains an allele for reduced apical dominance; and

recovering the resulting hybrid *Eustoma* seed, the genome of which contains an allele for reduced apical dominance.

17. A process for obtaining a hybrid *Eustoma* plant, the genome of which contains an allele for reduced apical dominance, the process comprising the steps of:

crossing a *Eustoma* plant obtained by the process of claim 15 with a *Eustoma* plant the genome of which contains an allele for reduced apical dominance;

recovering the resulting hybrid *Eustoma* seed; and
planting the hybrid *Eustoma* seed and regenerating into plants, the genome of which
contains the allele for reduced apical dominance.

- 5 18. Viable *Eustoma* seeds and plants and succeeding generations thereof grown
from seeds deposited under ATCC Accession number 203392 and *Eustoma* seeds and
plants to which the allele for reduced apical dominance is transferred from the deposited
seeds in succeeding generations thereof.

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